

## Our Vision for the Future ...

*Our vision: St. Peter's  
is a thriving urban parish  
whose members nourish one another  
in lives of faith, share the love of  
Christ, and serve the people of this  
neighborhood and City.*

As we launch our new strategic plan, St. Peter's is an active and growing parish, currently celebrating a rich, 250-year history. Our 2005-08 strategic plan transformed us, enabling parish growth in a variety of areas and directing us outward. More children are now participating in our rapidly growing Children's Worship Service, and more adults are taking part in educational offerings and outreach programs.

'Reaching Beyond Growing Within 2009-12' builds upon lessons we have learned and stretches us for even greater service as followers of Jesus Christ. We believe families – whatever their size or composition – are here seeking support and sustenance that celebrates times of joy, comforts during hardship, and challenges and equips us to minister to a broken world in the name of Christ. In each of these areas of ministry, we want to be more and do more, with each other and with our neighbors. We recognize that it will take all of us working together to make this plan successful.



Open hearts. Open minds.



### Our Core Purpose

To know the transforming power of God's love and to make God's love known to others.

### Our Core Values

**We gather to worship and experience God's love** – St. Peter's is a vibrant community of faith, nourished in the joy, hope, and beauty that are God's gifts.

**We are open and compassionate** – We endeavor to seek and serve Christ in all persons, welcoming the creative tension that arises in a diverse community.

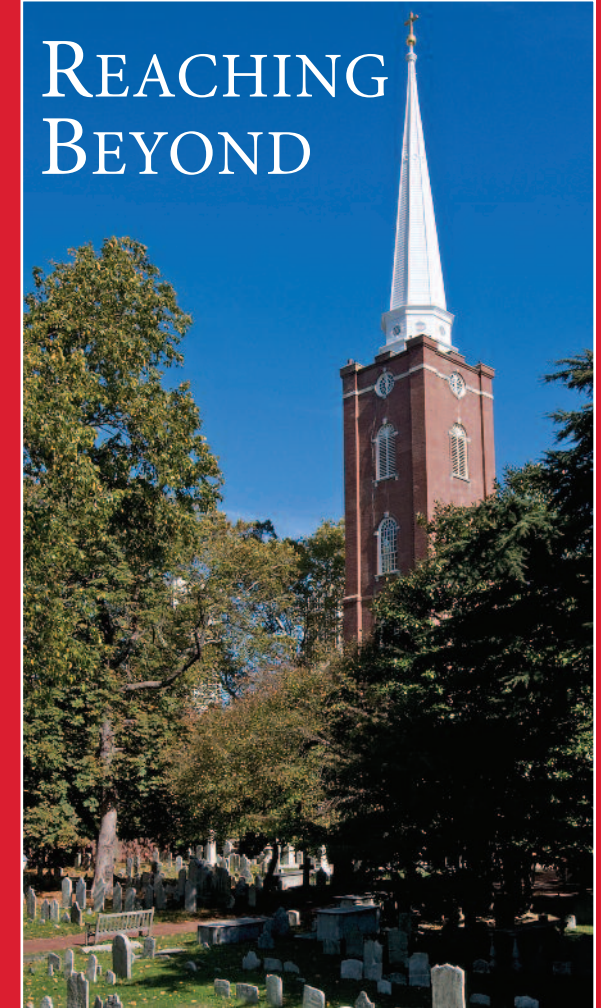
**We witness to Christ's love and justice** – We commit to using the blessings we've been given to serve the needs within our community and the larger world.

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## REACHING BEYOND



## GROWING WITHIN

*St. Peter's Church  
Strategic Plan 2009-2012*

# OUR CORE PURPOSE

*To know the transforming power of God's love and to make God's love known to others.*

## The Change We Desire

## How We'll Chart our Progress

### Worshipping

*Our common life together is centered in worship and prayer.*

We make time for personal and family prayer. We welcome and embrace one another through our worship services. Baptisms, weddings, and burials are occasions that invite strangers into membership.

We attend worship more often, pray regularly, and invite others to join us at St. Peter's.

### Learning

*We engage in life-long learning in Christian faith and spiritual practice.*

We seek to be disciples of Jesus, making connections between faith and life. We are committed to practicing a spiritual discipline, and engage in spiritual retreats.

We develop an increased variety of educational offerings, especially for in-depth learning; more of us take part in adult programming.

### Caring

*We provide loving and compassionate ministry to one another.*

We minister to each other at times of major life transitions, and we reach out to seniors in particular. We effectively incorporate new members. We seek out and match people with ministries that serve – both to give and to get. Our small groups are clearly linked to church teachings.

We experience support during the major transitions in our lives; more of us participate in small-group offerings and ministries.

### Sharing

*We live out our faith and invite others to join us.*

We feel comfortable talking about our faith, and we understand what it means to help others become disciples of Jesus Christ. We are aware of the parish's finances and costs of operation. We cheerfully share our gifts for ministry.

More of us are here through a personal invitation. We have more visitors, and more visitors become active members. More of us pledge to the Every Member Canvass, and together we contribute more.

### Serving

*We attend creatively to the needs of the community and the larger world.*

We have clear strategies for advocacy and social justice ministries, and we expand our outreach efforts in support of the Millennium Development Goals.

St. Peter's is known as a community that serves. We devote a larger percentage of our church budget to outreach activities.

### Children and Youth

*Our vibrant children's programs engage families and the community.*

We find the necessary resources – people, money, and space – for the growing number of children and families participating in our programs.

Participation in children's programs and youth groups increases each year. We have more children's choir members from outside St. Peter's School, plus we lose fewer teen-aged choir members.

### Supporting Strategies

We make good use of technology to communicate frequently within the parish and publicize activities out in the community. We complete our long-term Master Property Plan, and provide short-term solutions to space needs in the interim. We celebrate our 250th anniversary through a wide variety of activities highlighting our rich heritage as a parish.

We identify additional resources to support church growth. We ensure that our historic archives and collections are appropriately conserved. We have space that enables us to gather and carry out our ministry effectively.